NREGS in the country

†245. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has been launched in all the proposed districts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, alongwith the names of districts wherein this scheme has not been introduced; and

(d) whether the State Governments have the right to change the name of this scheme and if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, NREGA has been launched in all the 200 identified districts in the country. Out of these 200 districts, 183 districts were notified for implementation of the Act with effect from 2nd February 2006. In two districts of Meghalaya, the Act has been implemented with effect from 1st April, 2006 due to the applicability of Model Code of Conduct which was in force in the State in view of the bye-election. In three identified districts of Jammu and Kashmir, the Act has been implemented as a State scheme as in terms of Section 1(2) of the Act, it does not apply to the State of J&K. In 12 districts of Maharashtra, the State Government has implemented the Act by implementing its own Act so that the entitlements of the workers under the Central Act are ensured in the State scheme.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) The State Governments do not have any right to change the name of the Act being a legislation passed by Parliament. However, under 4(i) of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, every State Government within six months of the commencement of the Act, is to prepare and notify a scheme for giving effect to provisions of Section 3 of the Act.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.